

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 03533 020850Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 OMB-01
IO-13 /105 W

-----128204 020913Z /11/41

R 271242Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5629
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 3533

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT CORRECTED)

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, ELAB, GR, TU
SUBJ: GREEK TRADE UNION AND TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO

REF: (A) BRUSSELS 8163 (NOTAL) (B) ATHENS 2460 (NOTAL)

1. OFFICIALS OF THE GREEK GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (GSEE) CONFIRM THAT THE GSEE HAS REQUESTED THE EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION TO PROTEST THE PROPOSED LIFTING OF THE TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO. THE SAME SOURCES INFORM US THAT THE GSEE HAS SENT SIMILAR REQUESTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (ICFTU) AND AFL-CIO PRESIDENT GEORGE MEANY. SEVERAL NATIONAL LABOR FEDERATIONS HAVE ALSO RECENTLY REQUESTED FROM THE EMBASSY THE ADDRESSES OF THEIR U.S. COUNTERPARTS, WE ASSUME IN ORDER TO DIRECT SIMILAR REQUESTS TO THEM.

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2. THE PROPOSAL TO LIFT THE EMBARGO ALSO MAKES IT LESS LIKELY THAT THE GSEE WILL PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING WITH ITS TURKISH COUNTERPART, TURK-IS, AND THE GREEK-CYPRIOT AND TURKISH-CYPRIOT LABOR CONFEDERATIONS UNDER ICFTU AUSPICES IN BRUSSELS NEXT MONTH. MINISTER OF LABOR LASKARIS INFORMED THE EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR ON

APRIL 17 THAT HE HAD PROHIBITED GREEK TRADE UNIONISTS FROM PARTICIPATING IN IT.

3. ICFTU PRESIDENT OTTO KERSTEN PROPOSED SUCH A MEETING TO GSEE AND TURK-IS REPRESENTATIVES AT THE AFL-CIO CONVENTION IN LOS ANGELES LAST DECEMBER. KERSTEN FOLLOWED UP HIS SUGGESTION DURING HIS TRIP TO ATHENS AND ANKARA LAST MARCH. GSEE LEADERS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO PARTICIPATE (REFTEL B). THEY NOW INFORM US, HOWEVER, THAT NO DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN YET WHETHER OR NOT THE GSEE WILL CONFIRM ITS PRIOR AGREEMENT. MCCLOSKEY

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 apr 1978
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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